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TWELVE PAGES.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1900.

KEEPING THE PUBLIC IN THE DARK.

The National Administration has not been backward in taking advantage of the diversion of public attention from the Philippine war by the more spectacular hostilities in South Africa. The natural tendency has been to forget the Philippines for the time being, and the tendency has been ably aided along by the President, General Otis and the news associations.

Indeed only twice of late has the fact that we have a war on our hands become so obtrusive that it could not be ignored by those to whose interest it is to tell good news only, and who have no news of that character to tell. These two instances were the reports of the enormous losses of our troops by disease and of the conspiracy of the Philippines extending to the heart of Manila itself. Apart from this, the public has been much more largely interested in the question of our relations to the Philippines than in what is actually going on there; possibly because they are not permitted, and have never been permitted, to know what is actually going on, save by an occasional glimpse of a soldier's letter that did not gild the situation.

Just how solicitous the Administration is to keep legitimate information from the public, was brought out clearly in the debate on Senator Allen's resolution calling on the War Department to furnish the Senate with a list of American casualties and losses in the Philippines. There was nothing unusual about the resolution; indeed, in view of the alarming reports that have gone the rounds of the press the inquiry was entirely natural. And yet Senator Gallinger was moved to declare that the object was to "get information that could be garbled for political purposes." After debate the resolution was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, where it will doubtless be duly smothered.

It is thus that a censorship at Manila, and a partisan majority in Congress, keep the facts from the public. There remains but a part of the session of Congress, a little over two months, and if inconvenient inquiries can be put off until Congress adjourns there will be no means of compelling the divulgence of information which is the public's due, and the galling-gun civilizers can go into the Presidential campaign without having to do a deal of awkward explaining.

In this connection it may also be observed that the News Associations, upon which the press of this country depends for direct information from the Philippines, have not added materially to the American reputation for enterprise. There was a fitful protest against Otis' death grip on the cable, and after that, the War Department was looked to mainly for information. What the sundry high-priced correspondents are doing in the Philippines is left to conjecture, when one has scanned the columns of the American newspaper. It is not so very far from Manila to Hong Kong, where the cable is neutral, but it has been months since the American press has had a lucid, intelligible and uncensored review of the Philippine situation. Are the American soldiers dying like sheep in the Philippines? Is the war, in truth, practically over? What are the troops under Otis' command doing? Nobody seems to know.

Machine-made articles are good enough in their way, but it is not thought the people of Virginia want that kind of a Constitution.

SOMETHING KEEPS HAPPENING TO IT.

On the 20th of March, in an editorial under the caption, "No Avoiding the Issue," our esteemed morning contemporary, discussing the convention to change the Constitution, said:

"The matter of the referendum does not yet enter into the discussion. The law provides for its decision, and nothing positive can be done about it until AFTER the people shall have signified their wish for Constitutional revision."

Then, after saying that it may be taken for granted that the work of a Constitutional Convention will be submitted to the voters, it adds:

"According to the law, if the people vote for a Constitution next May, a special meeting of the LEGISLATURE will be called to decide upon the time and place of holding the convention, AS WELL AS TO SAY WHETHER THE WORK of the body shall be subject to the people's approval."

That was March 20th. On the 27th our contemporary unleashed itself, and for the first time insinuates its approval of the submission of the Constitution to the people (it has never said so in so many words). Hear it:

"To make assurance doubly sure, it will be perfectly proper for the approaching State Democratic Convention in this city, in approving the movement for a Constitutional Convention, to enjoin upon all the Democratic members of such a body to vote for submitting the draft to the people."

Something has happened to our esteemed contemporary again; and that something is the unanimous view of the party leaders that the Constitution MUST be submitted to the people, and that the Democratic Convention MUST enjoin upon all Democratic members of the Constitutional Convention to vote for submitting the changes in the Constitution to the people.

And so it comes to pass that "in order to make assurance doubly sure" the matter of the referendum does enter into the discussion. And we may add that it is as important as the new Constitution itself.

Our contemporary said on the 20th of March:

"The law provides for its decision, and NOTHING POSITIVE CAN BE DONE about it until AFTER the people shall signify their wish for Constitutional revision."

Within seven days something happens to it, and it then says:

"To make assurance doubly sure" (pretty strong language) "it will be perfectly proper for the approaching State Democratic Convention in this city, in approving the movement for a Constitutional Convention, to enjoin upon all the Democratic members of such a body to vote for submitting the draft to the people."

And so our contemporary has found something POSITIVE CAN be done about it BEFORE the people shall have signified their wish for constitutional revision.

It would all look surprising, but that something has evidently happened to our esteemed morning contemporary.

And in the meantime, Democrats, regardless of our contemporary's anonymous circular, are going right along preparing for a new Constitution, and are also preparing for a submission of it to the people.

INJUSTICE WITH CHARITY.

A vital point of difference between the Democratic and Republican types of character is brought out into bold relief by this Porto Rican fight. It illustrates the distinction in method and principle between the two. It suggests a test by the use of which we can forecast probable party action. The distinction is as sharp and radical as between justice and injustice. In fact, it is to their relative position in regard to this very principle of justice that we refer.

The Porto Ricans are entitled by law and right, and by virtue of our unwritten, though none the less clearly recognized pledge, to all the privileges of American liberty; and, as President McKinley pointed out in his message, it is "our plain duty" to give them free trade with us. To do this is to be just; not to do it is to be unjust. The Democratic party (indeed all fair-minded American citizens) want to be just in this matter. Not so the Republican party.

The Republican party, dominated by monopoly interests, which live on special privilege and scoff at justice, refuses to deal righteously with the suffering and betrayed Porto Ricans, and then, under pretence of squaring the account, wants to let the President spend on the island all the duties which have been collected on goods imported into the States from the island. Injustice, then charity.

But take just a glance at the peculiar character of this charity. The Administration says: "We are giving their money back to them." It would not be polite to call this a lie. So we will not characterize it. It will not deceive any one, save a lingering remnant of the credulous, who still cling to the fool theory that the foreigner pays the tariff tax. These duties were ultimately all paid by the consumers here. This "charity" is not unlike that of the man whose wealth has been gained by the possession of some inequitable privilege of wrongful monopoly. To give to some people what has been wrongfully taken from others, squares no accounts and lays up no treasure in heaven.

The Republicans ruin Porto Rican trade by unjust restrictions, and then "charitably" hand over to them money

manhood, whose twin principles seem to be: Injustice and Charity with Stolen Goods.

A PREMATURE DELIVERANCE.

The esteemed Knoxville Journal and Tribune, published and circulated, in a limited way, in that expanse of country which lies at the other end of the Norfolk and Western railway, and is known to the Federal courts as East Tennessee, has this to say of the Kentucky imbroiglio:

"At last the evidence of Wharton Golden against Caleb Powers has been heard. But for the one hundred thousand dollars appropriated by the Kentucky Legislature, it would not have been given. If what he testifies be true, Caleb Powers is an idiot. It is not believed that Powers is an idiot. Until corroborated by testimony of a character entitling it to credit, most people will believe that Golden has told a story arranged by the conspirators for the occasion. In other words, without ample corroboration, the statement will be regarded as an outrageous lie. This is that it is the one hundred thousand dollars that is doing the talking through Golden. His tongue is the tongue of the blood money."

It is seldom indeed that "most people" have their beliefs settled offhand for them in this free and easy way. Many of them, we venture to assert, were entirely unconscious that they harbored any such belief about their persons, until our contemporary laid its finger upon this concealed opinion. It is even possible that some of those who thus have their minds made up for them would have preferred to reserve judgment until all the evidence as to this atrocious and mysterious crime was in; some of the more squeamish doubtless would have hesitated to accuse a witness, in a case where so much is at stake, of perjury, and the Legislature of Kentucky of subornation of perjury.

It is, under the circumstances, only fair to suggest to the Journal and Tribune that it take "most people," for whom it assumes to speak, into its confidence and lay bare the facts on which it has felt impelled to declare that the law-making body of a great, if unhappy, State has hired a witness to swear away the lives or the liberty of innocent men. These facts would work a great revulsion of feeling in the bosoms of those who have been disposed to leave the question of guilt or innocence to the court of law, where the case is now being heard. Without these facts, that seem to be in the safe-keeping of our contemporary, many people will be disinclined to brand as an "outrageous lie" the evidence of a man who is testifying at the risk of his life.

There has been a great deal of twaddle (some partisan and some vicious) over the plight of this unfortunate Commonwealth. What possible good can come of it does not appear. It is not a pleasant thing for the believers in representative government to see a State rush headlong into chaos and anarchy; it is far from a heartening spectacle at a time when new and severe tests, at home and abroad, wait in the pathway of the republic. Why, therefore, make matters appear worse than they are? Why charge what certainly no man at this hour can prove?

TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY HOME

It is all well enough now that the affair is over, to place the blame upon Governor Tyler for not keeping troops at Emporia. After thought is always better than foresight. It should not be overlooked that the Governor was requested by the Judge and Commonwealth's Attorney to withdraw the troops, and that he reluctantly did so, impressing upon the Sheriff his sole responsibility. While after facts show the withdrawal of the troops to have been a sad mistake, the Sheriff and Judge should not be overlooked in their remissness. Without declaring martial law, the Governor could not order out the troops except upon request of the Sheriff and then only to assist him and subject to his orders.

Let the blame fall where it chiefly belongs—with the civil authorities of Greenville county.

The Virginian-Pilot has confidence in the people of the State, and is unwilling to see them made to assume the role of the "under-dog" in a fight. The people can be trusted, therefore, we say, submit to them the work of the Constitutional Convention. If they approve, well and good; if they reject, that ends it. The people are the rightful judges.

If the Democratic State Convention decides to make the calling of a convention to amend the Constitution a party question, the people, who are the party, should be taken into partnership, and allowed the privilege and right of passing on the work of the convention.

Sundry Republican newspapers are industriously engaged in discovering a "Democratic revolt" just now. This is an unwarranted infringement of the privileges of the Palmer-Buckner organs.

The dissatisfaction and unhappiness of one Washington man has become so intense that he has taken to slashing the cushions in the street cars. Washington is putting the whole country in somewhat of a slashing humor.

Speaking of Boer welcomes, General Buller is believed to know better than any man in South Africa just what the real thing is like.

The people are the masters and have the right to approve or disapprove of the acts of their servants. It would be well to bear this in mind while advocating the holding of a convention to revise the Constitution.

Governor Candler says the "best school for boys of either race is the cornfield or cotton patch." What the boys will do to Governor Candler when they are old enough to vote will be a surplus.

There is a danger that the shocking "conspiracy of officeholders" may be overworked. Scarecrows are no exception to the rule that familiarity breeds contempt.

The man who springs an expansion endorsement resolution on the State Democratic Convention will be of the sort that is always hungering to finger a buzz-saw on its busy day.

Mr. McKinley has found time in the midst of the fret to pardon a few bank cashiers for stealing. This ought to give fresh inspiration to the promoters of the ship subsidy bill.

The Texas Republicans want Mrs. Hetty Green's son named as McKinley's running mate. As the old lady would have to put up the funds why not name her?

It is said that the Orange Free Staters went to war without having no heart in it.—Richmond Times.

Ah, indeed? The Free Staters and English grammar are in a bad fix.

Let us have a Constitutional Convention by all means, but with the proviso that the people shall be allowed the privilege of passing upon its work.

The threatened trek of Republican voters has had the effect of rousing a warm love for the Porto Ricans in the Senatorial bosom.

The esteemed Valuation Law seems to have accumulated as warm a batch of law suits as the Rev. Sheldon's experiment in journalism.

There ought to be a boom in the building material market at Johannesburg after Oom Paul gets through with it.

The average man who stands upon his dignity has a mighty poor foundation.

Never spoil a good memory by overloading it with facts not in your line.

NOTES AND OPINIONS.

(Speech of Hon. R. D. Sutherland, of Nebraska.)

I wish to give at this point a letter from the War Department showing the total number of men enlisted in the Spanish and Philippine wars and the number who did not see service abroad.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.
Washington, D. C., January 19, 1900.
Sir: In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, to the Secretary of War, requesting information as to the number of men enlisted for service in the army during the Spanish war, etc., I have the honor to say that the records show that the number of volunteers enlisted prior to the signing of the treaty of peace was, commissioned officers, 10,917; enlisted men, 213,218; total, 224,135. The number of men enlisted in the regular army between April 21, 1898, and April 11, 1899, was, approximately, 73,000. The number of troops, regular and volunteer, sent abroad between April 21, 1898, and April 11, 1899, was, approximately, 65,000, leaving a balance of about 201,535 that did not leave the limits of the United States during that period.

WM. H. CARTER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.
Hon. R. D. SUTHERLAND,
House of Representatives.

The following letter shows the cost of our war to December 31, 1899:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.
Washington, D. C., January 20, 1900.
Sir: In reply to your communication of the 15th instant, requesting information as to the amount expended for war purposes, exclusive of amounts expended for building battle ships, from the beginning of the war with Spain to the present time, I have the honor to state as follows:

Estimated expenditures on account of the war with Spain, from March, 1898, to December 31, 1899:

War \$256,750,000
Navy 68,000,000
Payment to Spain 20,000,000
Interest on bonds issued for war expenditures 7,616,763

Total \$352,366,763

Information as to what amount may be included in the above-named navy expenditures for battle ships should be obtained from the Navy Department.

Respectfully,
L. J. GAGE, Secretary

Hon. R. D. Sutherland,
House of Representatives.

During the last twenty years we have had not to exceed 25,000 men in our regular army at any one time. We have at this date 100,000, and it is the policy of the administration to maintain an army of that size unless public sentiment is too vigorous in opposition. Heretofore it has cost us about \$25,000,000 per year for the support of our army. Now it is costing over one hundred and twenty-five millions per year, an increase of one hundred millions, that must be paid by the taxpayers of our country. It is estimated that in times of peace it costs the government about \$1,000 to maintain a soldier for one year.

BLUFFED TO A FINISH.

(Newport News Press.)

The logical conclusion to be adduced from the stories of the double lynching is that the mob had the county officials bluffed to a finish, and the latter were simply afraid to do their duty, although they had the means of protecting their prisoner right at hand. No matter how bloodthirsty the mob might have been, a good deal of its ardor would have been dampened with a volley from the rifles of the Blues, and while it may be said that it would have been a pity to waste the lives of valuable citizens in an effort to protect such characters as Cotton and his pal, it must be remembered that the question

does not hinge upon the relative value of the lives of the lynchers and of their victims, but a great principle is involved. The protection of a prisoner in his constitutional rights represents law and order on one side, while the lynchers, over-riding reason and right, represent the elements which strike at the very being of government and would establish in the place of justice the reckless sway of passion.

PETTIGREW'S REVENGE.

(Pittsburg Post.)

Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota, has had his revenge and it came about in a funny way. It was Senator Sewell, of New Jersey, who denounced him as a traitor in the Senate. The other day Mr. Pettigrew innocently began reading some extracts from addresses which he wished to have printed in the "Record." The sentiments sounded treasonable, or anarchical, and the Hawleys and Lodges began pricking up their ears. Finally Sewell jumped up. This thing had gone far enough. He objected to such stuff being printed at the expense of the government. Pettigrew's eye gleamed; his hour had come, and the Senate was informed that the extracts, every one, were taken from the works of Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln.

SUMMER IN CANTON.

(Chicago Record.)

The President expects to spend the summer in Canton. Whether or not he spends the following summer there may depend on whether he changes his mind again in regard to our plain duty.

WHAT HE IS PAID FOR.

(Baltimore American.)

The regular editor of the Topeka Capital gets \$5,000 a year for running it as Sheldon wouldn't.

THAT TROUBLESOME SHORTAGE.

(Baltimore Herald.)

Four hundred national banks are to be realized under the provisions of the new financial law, and yet many persons will be without money.

Warm Words of Commendation from a well-known Methodist minister.

I HAVE KNOWN DR. FIREY ABOUT 9 YEARS, while living in Roanoke City, he having practiced in my family during that time with skill and success. Though a young man then HE ENJOYED THE REPUTATION OF A SKILLFUL, PAINSTAKING AND COMPETENT PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Since I came to Norfolk DR. FIREY HAS TREATED ME FOR CATARRH OF NOSE, THROAT AND BRONCHIAL TUBES, THE TREATMENT RESULTING, I BELIEVE, IN A PERMANENT CURE. I regard Dr. Firey as worthy in every way of the confidence and patronage of the people of Norfolk.

REV. A. H. WAY,
No. 3 Byrd Place, Norfolk.
Rev. Mr. Way gave me the above testimonial OVER A YEAR AGO. Although the past winter has been unusually trying to persons suffering from any disease of nose, throat or lungs, he states that HE HAS HAD NO RETURN WHATEVER OF CATARRHAL SYMPTOMS. HE'S CURED TO STAY CURED.

HAS OFFICES 1 AND 2 NO. 214 MAIN STREET, NORFOLK, VA. SPECIALTIES: CATARRH AND ALL DISEASES OF EYE, EAR, NOSE, THROAT, CHEST AND STOMACH.

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In Selecting Jewelry

WHICH INVOLVES A CONSIDERABLE EXPENDITURE OF MONEY, GREAT CARE SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN CHOOSING THE PLACE TO BUY.

THERE IS SO MUCH SPURIOUS JEWELRY OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC NOWADAYS THAT THERE IS GREAT DANGER OF BEING FOOLED. WHY NOT BUY WHERE THE JEWELRY BUSINESS IS STEADY, AND WHERE ONLY RELIABLE GOODS ARE SOLD.

We Give You Your

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EVERY TIME. EVERYTHING THAT IS NEW AND NOVEL IN JEWELRY YOU WILL FIND IN OUR STOCK.

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SPRING AND SUMMER,

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OUR collection of stylish clothes for men this season is far, and away the BEST that we have ever offered.

We have Suits and Top Coats at every price at which thoroughly well

tailored garments can be sold. But to men of discriminating taste, we recommend those bearing THIS LABEL of the country's foremost makers of Men's Fashionable Clothing.

THE VARIETY OF STYLES AND SHAPES IN THIS MAKE enables us to perfectly fit men of all shapes, just as if the clothes were made to their measure.

"BEVERLY" SACK SUIT.

THE FEREBEE, JONES & CO.

"Beverly" Sack is a garment of much distinction and is specially adapted to tall, slender and well built men.

The "Beverly" Sack Suits are made principally from fine blue and black worsted serges, chevots, tibets and undressed worsteds.

THE LAPELS OF THIS GARMENT ARE EXTREMELY GRACEFUL

and the spacing of the buttons is such as to enhance the appearance of broad chestedness of the wearer. The finer grades are made without any silk facings on the lapels of the coats. Suits

\$10.00 to \$30.00.

"PRINCETON" SACK SUIT

THE FEREBEE, JONES & CO.

"Princeton" Sack Suit is designed for men who wish to dress well and without appearing ultra-fashionable. The lines of this coat are graceful and dignified.

THE "PRINCETON" SACK SUITS

are made up in black and navy blue serges, fancy cassimeres, worsteds, chevots and tweeds and plain colored rough worsteds, tibets and vicunas. These suits are also made in a variety of sizes from which stout men, very tall men, slender men and unusually big men can be perfectly fitted.

\$10.00 to \$30.00.

"RUTGERS" SACK SUIT.

THE FEREBEE, JONES & CO.

"Rutgers" sack is an ultra-fashionable shape which will be greatly in vogue among men who wish to dress in the extreme of fashion. The "Rutgers" sack suits are made from Cricketing flannels and vicunas in gray and olive tones, and also in fine blue serges and undressed worsteds.

THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE "RUTGERS" SACK

are its square shouldered, broad chested effect, the shapeliness at the waist line, and the new straight round corners at the fronts. Complete suits \$10.00 to \$30.00. Also made in coats and trousers, coats unlined and trousers to be worn with either belt or braces.

\$9.00 to \$20.00.

PRINCE ALBERT FROCK COAT.

THE FEREBEE, JONES & CO.

"Prince Albert" Frock can only be compared both in fabric and workmanship with the productions of the highest class custom tailors. The fabrics from which the Prince Albert coats and vests are made are black diagonal, dressed and undressed worsteds, and black and Oxford gray vicunas. In the latter fabrics,

ALL OF THE COATS ARE SILK FACED,

and some are silk lined throughout. The vests are made single and double breasted; you choose the style you like best though the double breasted vests are most fashionable. Prince Albert coats and vests

\$35.00.

FEREBEE, JONES & CO.

WE SHOW YOU GOODS AS ADVERTISED